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CIA-PRISONER

WASHINGTON (AP)-AN OUSTED OFFICIAL OF THE U. S. INFORMATION AGENCY SAYS AT LEAST TWO OF THE 10 AMERICANS HELD PRISONER BY THE RED CHINESE ARE AGENTS OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY. CHARLES EDMUNDSON SAID YESTERDAY THAT IS WHY THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN TRYING TO BAR U. S. NEWSMEN FROM GOING TO COMMUNIST CHINA. HE SAID THE DEPARTMENT FEARS THE NEWSMEN MIGHT LEARN SOME OF THE IMPRISONED AMERICANS ARE INTELLIGENCE AGENTS AND THAT THIS MIGHT WEAKEN U. S. EFFORTS TO GET THE PRISONERS FREED. A STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN DECLINED IMMEDIATE COMMENT. A CIA SPOKESMAN SAID HE HAD NO COMMENT TO MAKE. EDMUNDSON WAS FIRED LAST MONTH FROM HIS USIA POST IN KOREA AFTER HE HAD CRITICIZED PRESIDENT EISENHOWER'S PROPOSALS FOR BLOCKING COMMUNIST EXPANSION IN THE MIDDLE EAST. APPEARING ON A TELEVISION INTERVIEW (ABC COLLEGE NEWS CONFERENCE), EDMUNDSON SAID HE, THE CIA AND THE RED CHINESE ALL KNOW THAT SOME OF THE 10 AMERICANS ARE AGENTS OF THE CIA AND "PERHAPS OTHER INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES."

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW